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10. — 1. *Utah and the Mormons. The History, Government, Doctrines, Customs, and Prospects of the Latter-Day Saints. From Personal Observation during a Six Months' Residence at Great Salt Lake City.* By BENJAMIN G. FERRIS, late Secretary of Utah Territory. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1854. 24mo. pp. 347.
2. *The Mormons at Home; with some Incidents of Travel from Missouri to California, 1852-53. In a Series of Letters.* By MRS. B. G. FERRIS. New York: Dix & Edwards. 1856. 24mo. pp. 299.

MR. and Mrs. Ferris occupied a position in which they could not but see, if not all aspects, at least the most favorable aspects, of Mormon institutions, life, and character. They do not confine themselves to generalities, but record with entire freedom names and specific facts; and Mr. Ferris's book has been published long enough to have been proved unworthy of credence, if indeed it be so. We wish that these books could be circulated in a cheap form among the classes of persons most liable to be seduced by Mormon emissaries. They would not only preclude the proselytism of all who retained aught of virtue, self-respect, or decency; we doubt whether even the most vicious would consent to incur the consequences of legalized depravity, which, in penury and wretchedness for all except the few officials, are making a nearer approach than has been often witnessed to an adequate earthly retribution. We question whether there is a single male member of the Mormon community who is possessed of both common sense and common honesty. The leaders are bold, bad men, nursing a leash of vices at a time, and leaving it in doubt whether mendacity, avarice, licentiousness, or profaneness should be deemed the prominent characteristic. Their shrewdness is perhaps overrated; for when they act as missionaries, they have too large sea-room in the ocean of ignorance and falsehood to run the risk of collision with known truth, and when they get their victims into their pandemonium, it is an easy matter to prevent their escape, and to pillage, enslave, and debauch them. The rank and file are many of them no doubt actual dupes of the so-called religion, and find in licensed sensuality their only comfort under poverty, extortion, and oppression. There is probably a still larger amount of fanatical delusion among the women; but they are miserable beyond description, some of them tortured by a surviving moral nature which makes them aware of the vileness in which they are unwilling accomplices, all of them involved in the interminable strife incident to polygamy. Mr. Ferris's book is a calm, methodical *exposé* of the actual condition of society, drawn up with the precision of an official report, and sustained

so far as it can be by documentary evidence. Mrs. Ferris's letters are off-hand sketches, drawn from the life, as graceful as their subjects will suffer them to be, and often rising into the eloquence of a modest matron's burning indignation at the wrongs, outrages, and woes inflicted, less by superstition than by foul hypocrisy, upon her own sex.

11.—1. *Poems*. By CHARLES KINGSLEY. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1856. 16mo. pp. 284.

2. *The Heroes: or, Greek Fairy Tales for my Children*. By CHARLES KINGSLEY. Boston: Ticknor and Fields. 1856. 24mo. pp. 320.

THE chief of these poems is "The Saint's Tragedy," founded on the piety, sacrifices, and sufferings of St. Elizabeth of Thuringia, and running, for the most part, closely parallel with the monkish chronicles of which she is the heroine. It abounds in passages of striking beauty, and, while there is but little room for the invention of character or incident, great skill and pure taste are manifested in the translation of narrow Romish sentiment into the language of universal Christian consciousness.

The mythological tales, written, as the author says, for his own children, are told in an easy and attractive style, denuded of whatever might be of a corrupting or doubtful tendency, and so adapted to the easy comprehension of young persons, that they might render the leading names and incidents of Grecian fable familiar, at as early an age as a child is likely to encounter the names, or to see or hear allusions made to the incidents.

12.—*The West Church and its Ministers. Fiftieth Anniversary of the Ordination of Charles Lowell, D. D.* Boston: Crosby, Nichols, & Co. 1856. 12mo. pp. 242.

ON the 1st of January, 1806, Rev. Charles Lowell was ordained pastor (fourth of the series) of the West Church in Boston. It would be hard to say, (and in this community there is no need of saying,) how impressive he was in discourse, how fervent in the public offices of devotion, how incessant in pastoral service, how weighty in counsel, how tender in the ministries of consolation, how near to the hearts of his entire congregation, till infirmity compelled him to withdraw from active duty; and what sentiments of profoundest reverence and love followed him to his retirement, and have been transmitted to a rising gen-